



Uniformed Services University

of the Health Sciences
4301 Jones Bridge Road,
Bethesda, MD 20814-4799
<http://www.usuhs.mil>

Release No. 04-08-20

Aug 26, 2004

Contact: Office of University Affairs

Voice: 301-295-3925 **Fax:** 301-295-3757

Email: rkeilman@usuhs.mil

News Release

Dallas native and spouse join Navy to attend medical school

BETHESDA, Md. – Two U.S. Marine Corps officers, a Dallas native and his wife, were re-commissioned in the Navy after being accepted to attend medical school at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine.

Maj. Jason Gordon, son of Dr. David Gordon and the late Dr. Susan Gordon, was commissioned at the rank of ensign along with his wife, Capt. (major select) Wendy "Taylor" Gordon, during a commissioning ceremony here Aug 2.

"While I loved being a Marine, the Marine Corps doesn't have its own physicians, but instead, relies on the Navy for medical care," said Jason Gordon. "As a Naval Academy graduate and Marine, my roots were in the Navy, so Navy medicine was the obvious choice."

Before applying to medical school at USU, Jason Gordon served almost seven years of active duty with the Marines. Most of that time he spent serving as an infantry officer. He later chose to change his job specialty to the logistics career field, where he served for a year and a half before he and his wife decided to leave active duty in 2000 and transition service to the Marine Corps Inactive Ready Reserve.

The Gordons explained that after leaving active duty, they became interested in becoming medical doctors while conducting wilderness emergency medical technician training at a Fresno, Calif., hospital. The training, Jason Gordon said, was for a future business they planned to open.

“We fell in love with the whole hospital environment. We thought, ‘can we do this?’ So, we checked into how we could do it and what we needed for academic credentials,” said Jason Gordon.

Jason Gordon explains that although he and his wife had bachelor’s degrees, they took some additional, required science courses at the University of Texas in Dallas before applying to medical school.

“Our being accepted to this medical school as a married couple has been built up so much now, the pressure is on for us to perform well,” said Jason Gordon, who hopes to pursue a residency in emergency medicine when he graduates.

Jason Gordon graduated from the Naval Academy in 1994 with a bachelor’s degree in political science. That same year, he joined the Marine Corps to serve his country. In his spare time, Gordon enjoys bicycling, skydiving, scuba diving, exercising and volunteer activities.

USU was established by Congress under the Department of Defense in 1972 and has the nation’s only fully accredited federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. With its motto “Learning to Care for Those in Harm’s Way,” the university has a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for military medical education and research.